

New Annual Corporate Bike Tour Challenge Announced in Asia



Inaugural three-day ride will champion sustainability, encourage progressive companies to do more in the region, and raise funds for Operation Smile

The inaugural YAANA Bike Challenge will take place in Vietnam, 9-11 September, 2017. The objective is to bring together progressive corporate managers to have fun and enjoy amazing scenery while they push themselves mentally and physically. In addition they will promote sustainability and raise funds for Operation Smile, which pays for operations for Asian children born with facial deformities such as cleft lip.

The three-day 226 km ride from Quy Nhon to Hoi An is organised by YAANA Ventures and Grasshopper Adventures. It is not a race.

“It is a signature responsible tourism experience and fundraising event designed to be enjoyed by corporate managers who want to do more. They can test their ability on the bike, network in the evenings and give a beautiful new start for children born with cleft palates,” said Adam Platt-Hepworth, CEO of Grasshopper Adventures.

YAANA and Grasshopper are offering three fund raising corporate sponsorship packages for companies that want to contribute to Operation Smile. There’s a US\$5,000 sponsorship package that entitles participation of three riders from the company and assorted branding opportunities. There are also packages at US\$3,500 (two riders, plus branding), and US\$2,000 (one rider, plus branding).

“Apart from sponsors in travel, tourism and hospitality we are working to attract corporates from other sectors in Asia who share our sustainable business and fundraising objectives,” said Willem Niemeijer, CEO of YAANA Ventures.

Corporate sponsors from outside travel and tourism currently include Chow Energy, an investor in renewable power.

The organisers are seeking over 25 riders from diverse sectors for the inaugural event.

Participants who wish to raise their own funds for Operation Smile can pay US\$850 to cover the cost of the three-day event and create their own fundraising platform through mechanisms such as GoGetFunding.

Grasshopper Adventures, a leading bike tour specialist in Asia, will provide full technical, equipment and guide support, including international standard helmets, well maintained bikes fitted for the conditions, support vehicles, English speaking guide, bicycle mechanic, meals listed in the itinerary, as well as all water and snacks during the rides. A support van allows riders to take a rest if needed.

Participation includes meals during the bike ride. Riders have to arrange their own hotels before and after the event and international air tickets. Grasshopper can recommend specific hotels and flights on request.

"The annual YAANA Bike Challenge is a great way to spend time among a crowd of regional business leaders, exchange ideas, make new contacts and transform young lives for the better," said Niemeijer.

Additional information about the inaugural YAANA Bike Challenge is available at <http://yaana-ventures.com/2017/06/15/yaana-corporate-challenge/> and <https://www.grasshopperadventures.com/en/short-tours/grasshopper-corporate-challenge-vietnam.html>, including how to participate

Operation Smile details on how it helps fix young children's facial deformities such as cleft palates are available at <https://www.youtube.com/user/CreateSmiles>.

To date, YAANA Bike Challenge signed up 15 riders from sponsors that include YAANA Ventures, Grasshopper Adventures, Antipodeans, Sansara, InVision Hospitality, Chow Energy, Khiri Travel, Green Trails, GROUND, Remote Trails, and ScottAsia Communications. Companies or individuals with an interest in sponsorship are invited to contact the organisers on bike2017@yaana-ventures.com

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About YAANA Ventures

YAANA Ventures is an owner, partner and operator of entrepreneurial travel and hospitality ventures in Asia. YAANA distinguishes itself by sharing real experiences that are grounded in the cultural richness of Asia. The company is the champion of the triple bottom-line: it empowers its ventures with the values to nurture the people with whom it works. Visit <http://yaana-ventures.com/>.

About Grasshopper Adventures

Headquartered in Siem Reap, Cambodia, Grasshopper Adventures has introduced travellers from all walks of life to Asia on a bicycle since 2004. We offer day tours in seven locations throughout Southeast Asia and multi-day tours of between one and two weeks in 15 countries across Asia. We host over 17,000 customers each year and still maintain a personal touch with each rider. Our hope is to introduce thousands more to the pleasures of cycling and Asian travel.

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